

**CHAPTER NO. 291**

**HOUSE BILL NO. 580**

**By Representatives Odom, Newton, Todd, Givens, John DeBerry, Mumpower, Kent, Hargett, Pleasant, Godsey**

**Substituted for: Senate Bill No. 285**

**By Senator Ramsey**

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 63-5-114, relative to dental hygiene.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 63-5-114(a), is amended by deleting the subsection in its entirety, and by substituting instead the following language:

(a) The board is authorized to issue a license to practice dental hygiene to applicants who are citizens of the United States or Canada, or who are legally entitled to live within the United States, who have graduated and received a diploma from a dental hygiene program accredited by the American Dental Association's Commission on Dental Accreditation, which provides a minimum of two (2) academic years of dental hygiene curriculum, and which may be completed in a period of time less than two (2) years, in or through an institution of higher education accredited by an agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education to offer college-level programs, and who have successfully passed such examinations as may be established by the board. The board may recognize a certificate granted by the Joint Commission of National Dental Examinations or accept the results of the Southern Regional Testing Agency, or either organization in lieu of, or subject to, such examinations as may be required by the board.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 63-5-114(d)(2), is amended by deleting the subsection in its entirety, and by substituting instead the following language:

(2) Is a graduate of and has received a diploma from a dental hygiene program accredited by the American Dental Association's Commission on Dental Accreditation, which provides a minimum of two (2) academic years of dental hygiene curriculum, and which may be completed in a period of time less than two (2) years, in or through an institution of higher education accredited by an agency recognized by the U. S. Department of Education to offer college-level programs.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

PASSED: May 20, 1999

  
JIMMY RAIFEH, SPEAKER  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

  
JOHN S. WILDER  
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

APPROVED this 26th day of May 1999

  
DON SUNDQUIST, GOVERNOR